

**§ 817.56 Postmining rehabilitation of sedimentation ponds, diversions, impoundments, and treatment facilities.**

Before abandoning a permit area or seeking bond release, the operator shall ensure that all temporary structures are removed and reclaimed, and that all permanent sedimentation ponds, diversions, impoundments, and treatment facilities meet the requirements of this chapter for permanent structures, have been maintained properly, and meet the requirements of the approved reclamation plan for permanent structures and impoundments. The operator shall renovate such structures if necessary to meet the requirements of this chapter and to conform to the approved reclamation plan.

[48 FR 44006, Sept. 26, 1983]

**§ 817.57 Hydrologic balance: Surface activities in or adjacent to perennial or intermittent streams.**

(a)(1) *Buffer requirement.* Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section and consistent with paragraph (a)(2) of this section, you, the permittee or operator, may not conduct surface activities that would disturb the surface of land within 100 feet, measured horizontally, of a perennial or intermittent stream, unless the regulatory authority authorizes you to do so under § 784.28(e) of this chapter.

(2) *Clean Water Act requirements.* Surface activities, including those activities in paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(4) of this section, may be authorized in perennial or intermittent streams only where those activities would not cause or contribute to the violation of applicable State or Federal water quality standards developed pursuant to the Clean Water Act, as determined through certification under section 401 of the Clean Water Act or a permit under section 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

(b) *Exception.* The buffer requirement of paragraph (a) of this section does not apply to those segments of a perennial or intermittent stream for which the regulatory authority, in accordance with § 784.28(d) of this chapter or § 817.43(b)(1) of this part, approves one or more of the activities listed in para-

graphs (b)(1) through (b)(4) of this section.

(1) Diversion of a perennial or intermittent stream. You must comply with all other applicable requirements of the regulatory program, including the requirements of § 817.43(b) of this part for the permanent or temporary diversion of a perennial or intermittent stream.

(2) Placement of bridge abutments, culverts, or other structures in or within 100 feet of a perennial or intermittent stream to facilitate crossing of the stream by roads, railroads, conveyors, pipelines, utilities, or similar facilities. You must comply with all other applicable requirements of the regulatory program, including the requirements of §§ 817.150, 817.151, and 817.181 of this part, as appropriate.

(3) Construction of sedimentation pond embankments in a perennial or intermittent stream. This provision extends to the pool or storage area created by the embankment. You must comply with all other applicable requirements of the regulatory program, including the requirements of § 817.45(a) of this part. Under § 817.56 of this part, you must remove and reclaim all sedimentation pond embankments before abandoning the permit area or seeking final bond release unless the regulatory authority approves retention of the pond as a permanent impoundment under § 817.49(b) of this part and provisions have been made for sound future maintenance by the permittee or the landowner in accordance with § 800.40(c)(2) of this chapter.

(4) Construction of excess spoil fills and coal mine waste disposal facilities in a perennial or intermittent stream. You must comply with all other applicable requirements of the regulatory program, including the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (f) of § 817.71 of this part for excess spoil fills and the requirements of §§ 817.81(a), 817.83(a), and 817.84 of this part for coal mine waste disposal facilities.

(c) *Additional clarifications.* All surface activities conducted in or within 100 feet of a perennial or intermittent stream must comply with paragraphs (b)(9)(B) and (b)(11) of section 516 of the Act and the regulations implementing those provisions of the Act, including—